

Claire and congratulate him again on this important milestone in his life.

COMMENDING THE FEDERATION
OF FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health (FFCMH) upon the occasion of their 17th Annual Conference. Their conference will be held this weekend in Washington, D.C., and will be hosted by I Famagu'on-ta, the chapter and delegation from Guam.

The Federation is a national family-run network of community-based organizations dedicated to improving mental health services for children through advocacy, training, family support, and engagement in the public policy process. I commend the Federation for their support, service and commitment to children with mental health needs and their families throughout the United States.

In January of 2002, Guam advocates for families reached out to the Federation for assistance as resources and support for children with mental needs and their families in our community were largely unavailable on island. The association with Guam was born of the efforts initiated by Mary-Therese Edgerle, who at that time was a concerned parent on Guam. Through her vision and dedication, a family organization for parents whose children experience serious emotional disturbances or S.E.D. was established in the territory.

Through its former executive director, Barbara Huff, the Federation lent extraordinary assistance and key backing to Guam advocates in the early efforts to organize on behalf of children with mental health needs. Barbara personally saw to it that the Federation grew to include membership and organization in Guam. As a result of the collaboration between Guam advocates and Federation leaders, Guam's families began to learn and understand their rights and the many possibilities and programs that could be developed to help their children affected by S.E.D.

Sandra Spencer, the current Federation executive director, has been equally supportive of Guam. Under her direction and guidance, Guam has been blessed with ongoing leadership training through Lisa Conlan, the technical assistance partnership and peer mentor. The various board, individualized evaluation plan, crises, and family partners train-the-trainer programs, as well as their technical support, have provided invaluable expertise and assistance to the families and most especially, the children of Guam. The Federation staff members have given of their time willingly and unselfishly, as have other Federation Chapters, to provide Guam with much needed support, resources and information. In particular, I would like to recognize Sue Smith from the Parent Support Network in Georgia for her steadfast dedication and assistance to the Guam Chapter.

With the benefit of a \$180,000 statewide Family Network Grant award in October 2002, the Guam Chapter successfully identified and

strengthened local families through early program development stages. This work has resulted in a \$9.5 million grant. The Child Mental Health Initiative Cooperative Agreement with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration was entitled Project I Famagu'on-ta or "Our Children," in support of children and youth on Guam affected by S.E.D. As a result of Federation training, Guam Identifies Families Terrific Strengths, Inc., or G.I.F.T.S. was awarded tax-exempt status as a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization in October 2005.

The development and passing of legislation in Guam has further helped to shape and create a nationally recognized system of care on Guam. This legislation has also helped form G.I.F.T.S. as a new Federation chapter. It is this territorial chapter that is hosting the registration of the Federation of Families National Conference this weekend. The establishment of G.I.F.T.S. marks the beginning stage of an association providing much needed services to children and families on Guam.

I commend and congratulate the Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health for their unselfish devotion, commitment and support provided to those affected by S.E.D. I further express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude for their outstanding work in making a difference in the lives of the families and children of Guam and in other communities throughout the nation. Through the efforts of the Federation our nation has the ability to foster healthy emotional development for our children in need. I wish the Federation a successful and productive conference. Dankulo na Si Yu'os Ma'ase and thank you.

HONORING THE ROWLETT ROTARY
CLUB

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to help celebrate two significant anniversaries of Rotary International. This year, Rotary International celebrated its 100th anniversary. From its humble roots in Chicago, Illinois, Rotary has grown into a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Since 1943, Rotary International has distributed more than \$1.1 billion to combat Polio, promote cultural exchanges and encourage community service.

I also want to recognize the Rowlett Rotary Club for their 20 years of service to the community. Throughout its history, the Rowlett Rotary Club has achieved great success in carrying out the mission of Rotary International.

The Rowlett Rotary Club has raised money to provide scholarships for local youth. They have been involved in local community projects, such as a community sleeping bag collection to provide over 100 sleeping bags for the homeless. They also work with neighborhood organizations like Jonathan's Place, a home for children who are victims of drug and alcohol abuse. In addition, they support charities such as Equest, New Beginning's Center, and Rowlett Needy Children's Fund.

Through these initiatives, the Rowlett Rotary Club exemplifies the values of service and charity that lie at the heart of American society. As the Congressional representative of the members of this outstanding organization, it is my distinct pleasure to honor them today in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING RETIRING ERIE COUNTY
LEGISLATOR STEVEN P.
MCCARVILLE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the service of a public official with more than fourteen years of continuous service as a elected official. I rise to honor the distinguished service of my friend, Erie County Legislator Steve McCarville.

Steve McCarville is a lifelong resident of the town of Orchard Park, and began his public service as a member of the Orchard Park Village Board in 1991. Serving as Village Trustee from 1991 to 1997, Steve was part of a village team, including then-fellow trustee and current New York State Supreme Court Justice John Curran, that oversaw a transformation in the village of Orchard Park into what we see today—a vibrant, bustling village environment in one of Erie County's most successful suburban towns.

In 1997, Steve won election to the Orchard Park Town Board, a position he held until his appointment to a vacant 13th District seat in the Erie County Legislature. In 2001, Steve was appointed to serve the balance of a two year term and was later elected in his own right to represent the 13th district, which encompasses the towns of Aurora, Colden, Collins, Concord, and Orchard Park.

In the Legislature, Steve's work has been marked by a strong deliver of constituent services. In addition, he has secured funding for vital county road repairs in his district, opened the first Satellite Office in the town of Boston, and has worked to revitalize the Emery Park Inn.

Steve McCarville and I have an interesting past, in that he was my first opponent for a seat in the New York State Assembly in 1998. Although it was a tough and hardfought contest, it speaks well of Steve's character and integrity that we were able to resume our friendship at the end of that contest. Politics is politics, Mr. Speaker, but I am pleased to know that in the area of serving the public and the people who elected us to our respective offices, Steve McCarville and I were able to work cooperatively and effectively. We checked our politics at the door, and the public was better served for it.

Steve has at all times, expressed a sincere and steadfast intention to effectively represent the residents and taxpayers of Erie County in general and of his district in particular. He has served well, Mr. Speaker, and I am honored and privileged to call the House's attention to that service here today, and am grateful to have this opportunity to honor him.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF
DECCAN WEST VENKAT MANIAM

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I am happy to congratulate Suresh and Jey Maniam of Arlington, Virginia, on the birth of their new baby boy. Deccan West Venkat Maniam was born on November 4, 2005 at 8:02 AM, weighing 6 pounds, 13 ounces and measuring 19 inches long. Decan has been born into a loving home, where he will be raised by parents who are devoted to his well-being and bright future. His birth is a blessing.

HONORING THE MESQUITE
ROTARY CLUB

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. HENSARLING. Today, I would like to help celebrate two significant anniversaries of Rotary International. This year, Rotary International celebrated its 100th anniversary. From its humble roots in Chicago, Illinois, Rotary has grown into a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Since 1943, Rotary International has distributed more than \$1.1 billion to combat Polio, promote cultural exchanges and encourage community service.

I also want to recognize the Mesquite Rotary Club for their 46 years of service to the community. Throughout its history, the Mesquite Rotary Club has achieved great success in carrying out the mission of Rotary International.

The Mesquite Rotary Club has raised money to provide scholarships for local youth and worked with Rotary International to help eradicate polio. They have assisted the Mission East Dallas Charity Clinic as well as donating to a program that distributes wheelchairs all over the world. In addition, they have been very involved in local community projects, such as the Centennial Project, Annual Bike Ride and improving a new playground and making it accessible for children with special needs.

Through these initiatives, the Mesquite Rotary Club exemplifies the values of service and charity that lie at the heart of American society. As the Congressional representative of the members of this outstanding organization, it is my distinct pleasure to honor them today on the floor of the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING RETIRING LACKA-
WANNA COUNCILMAN RICARDO
ESTRADA

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor retiring Lackawanna City Councilman Ricardo Estrada, who will on December 31, 2005, complete 8 years of service as a member of the Lackawanna City Council.

Ricky Estrada is a leader of significance in the city of Lackawanna and in his beloved first ward that he has served so well. Consistently re-elected by his constituents, Ricky Estrada has been a strong voice for an economically challenged community, and it is his leadership that will allow for the resurgence of Lackawanna's first ward in the years to come.

It would be hard for me, Mr. Speaker, to imagine a group of elected leaders who support our vision for the reform of the transportation infrastructure of Buffalo and Lackawanna's waterfront areas than the elected leaders of the city of Lackawanna. Leaders like Ricky Estrada have long recognized the need to offer greater public access to our region's waterfront, and his support and that of his colleagues has been outstanding and meaningful, and effective for the people he represents.

While my friend Councilman Estrada will be succeeded on the Lackawanna City Council by an effective community leader, it is unquestioned that his retirement will be a loss for the city council in general and for the city as a whole. It is my fervent hope that Ricky Estrada will remain an active member of our community, so that we may continue to work together toward the betterment of our region.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for this opportunity to honor Councilman Estrada, and his faithful service to the residents and taxpayers of the city of Lackawanna.

WITNESS FOR JUSTICE: UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to enter into the RECORD "Witness for Justice #223" entitled The Sons and Daughters . . . published on July 18, 2005, by the United Church of Christ of Cleveland, Ohio. The article eloquently written by Bernice Powell Jackson, the Executive Minister of this Church on 700 Prospect Avenue in Cleveland, addresses an issue that should be in the hearts and on the lips of every minister, rabbi and imam when he or she stands before a congregation.

The subject of The Sons and Daughters article was the difficulty the U.S. Army was having recruiting enough men and women to meet recruiting goals. At the time Minister Jackson wrote this article the Army was experiencing sufficient difficulty that they were raising the promise of higher sign-up bonuses, dropping standards and, as could be found, as she put it, circling "vulnerable young men and women like hawks flying over little chicks."

Minister Jackson did not question the patriotism of the young people failing to sign up with recruiters. She speculated the young people had gotten wiser. Perhaps she thought these men and women were looking at certain realities about the pre-emptive war they would fight if they enlisted. At the time of this article these young people had experienced 2 years "of watching a war which has so far resulted in nearly 1800 deaths and ten times that many injuries." Perhaps they were thinking how much life they had before them at the age of 18, 19, 20 or 21. Maybe they knew someone who had been burned beyond recognition or had lost both of his or her legs and faced a life time of disability at the age of 21.

Or, Minister Jackson thought, perhaps these young people had begun to detect the varying rationales and purposes stated by the Bush administration for why the United States was fighting in Iraq. The purpose of the War, according to the President, was to save our country from "imminent danger" from weapons of mass destruction that might come in the form of a "mushroom cloud." But 2 years on, there were no weapons of mass destruction and no imminent danger; so different reasons for the war were being substituted for the war in Iraq. We were fighting in Iraq to stop the terrorists. However, many were saying the American presence in Iraq was creating terrorists.

Of course, Minister Jackson speculated that these young people might not want to sign up for a war when the statements of the Secretary of Defense, Donald Rumsfeld, could not be relied upon for any certainty about when they would come home. Secretary Rumsfeld's statements about how long the United States would be in Iraq changed almost daily. Secretary Rumsfeld could not articulate a coherent plan for the war and neither could the President of the United States.

Young people, Minister Jackson speculated, might be frightened by the tactics used by recruiters to pressure young, vulnerable youths whose personnel information, including their names, social security numbers, race, ethnic background and telephone numbers the Defense Department received because one of the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act was being shared by the Defense Department with a sharing with a private contractor who sold goods and products to young men about the age of those being recruited.

The tactics of the Pentagon are enabled by the No Child Left Behind Act as currently written. Minister Jackson pointed out that parents have to opt out of the program to get the military to leave their child off the potential recruitment list. Some in Congress have tried to change this law so that the parents would have to opt in so their child would be on the recruitment list. Those attempts failed because they were voted down by the Republican hawks in Congress. Minister Jackson noted in a column by Bob Herbert of the New York Times the statement: "There are always plenty of hawks in America. But the hawks want their wars fought with other people's children."

Minister Jackson wrote "our young people are in danger." She advised all of us to write our President, Secretaries of Defense and Education, our Congressperson and Senators and let them know about these recruiters and these lists.

This statement by Minister Jackson goes to the heart of what is wrong with this war. The